

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-02 OIC-02

OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15

TRSE-00 NSC-05 BIB-01 /082 W
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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 988

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1827

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: FLANK SECURITY: SPC MEETING QPRIL 3

REF: A) USNATO 1710 DTG 271725Z MAR 75; B) USNATO 1683 DTG
271315Z MAR 75; C) STATE 221663 DTD 9 OCT 74; D) USNATO 1626
DTG 241742Z MAR 75; E) STATE 74972

1. CHARGE ON APRIL 2 MADE DEMARCHE WITH AMBASSADOR CATALANO
(ITALY) ON FLANK SECURITY, AND LEFT PAPER CONTAINING TEXT
INCLUDED IN REF A. CATALANO SAID HE APPRECIATED THE CALL, AND
WOULD TRANSMIT THE U.S.VIEWS TO HIS AUTHORITIES. HE WAS
AWARE OF EMBASSY ROME'S DISCUSSION AT THE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY.
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A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF BELGIAN AND ITALIAN FORMULATIONS ENSUED.
CATALANO INDICATED ITALY MIGHT BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE FRG PROPOSAL
(PARA 2, REF B).

2. SPC AGAIN CONSIDERED GUIDANCE TO AHG ON FLANK SECURITY ON APRIL 3. ITALIAN REP (CIARRAPICO) STATED THAT THE ITALIAN FORMULATION DID NOT HAVE "A GREAT ECHO" IN THE SPC. TO REACH A SOLUTION ON THIS MATTER, ITALY WAS READY TO FOLLOW THE FRG SUGGESTION, I.E. TO ACCEPT THE BELGIAN FORMULATION, WITH A CLAUSE STATING THAT THE ALLIES WOULD SPECIFY AT A LATER DATE THE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS WHERE REDEPLOYMENT OF WITHDRAWN FORCES WOULD BE PROHIBITED.

3. U.S. REP (MOORE) NOTED THE U.S. POSITION THAT THE ALLIES SHOULD NOT SEEK TO DEFINE MORE PRECISELY THE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS WHERE THE PROVISIONS OF THE BELGIAN FORMULATION WOULD APPLY.

4. GREEK REP (CORANTIS), SAID GREECE STILL SUPPORTS THE ITALIAN FORMULATION. HE THOUGHT GREECE COULD AGREE TO THE BELGIAN FORMULATION ONLY IF THE ALLIES SPECIFIED THE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS AT THE SAME TIME THAT THEY USED THE BELGIAN FORMULATION WITH THE OTHER SIDE.

5. TURKISH REP (GUR) SAID HE WANTED TO PROPOSE A COMPROMISE VERSION OF THE FRG IDEA. THE ALLIES WOULD AGREE TO THE BELGIAN FORMULATION, AND ALSO AGREE TO LEAVE OPEN THE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT TO SPECIFY THE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS, FOR LATER DISCUSSION WITHIN THE ALLIANCE. THIS WOULD GIVE THE AHG THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET THE OTHER SIDE'S REACTION TO THE BELGIAN FORMULATION, AND TO PROBE THE EAST FURTHER ON THE QUESTION OF FLANK SECURITY. IF THE OTHER SIDE ASKED WHAT THE AHG MEANT BY "GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS", THE AHG WOULD AVOID RESPONDING.

6. FRG REP (HOYNCK) SUPPORTED THE TURKISH PROPOSAL. HE THOUGHT THIS PROCEDURE WOULD ENABLE THE AHG TO SAY SOMETHING MORE ABOUT FLANK SECURITY, WHILE NOT COMMENTING FURTHER ON THE MEANING OF "GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS". BELGIAN REP (BURNY) ALSO THOUGHT THAT THE TURKISH PROPOSAL COULD SERVE AS USEFUL BASIS FOR COMPROMISE. CANADIAN REP (BECKETT) THOUGHT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD LOOK FAVORABLY UPON THE TURKISH PROPOSAL.

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7. ITALIAN REP, ON PERSONAL BASIS, SAID HE THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE ALLIES UNDERSTAND AMONG THEMSELVES WHAT THEY MEAN BY "GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS. TURKISH REP WONDERED, ALSO ON A PERSONAL BASIS, IF ALLIES COULD NOT AT LEAST DECIDE INFORMALLY AMONG THEMSELVES WHAT THEY MEANT BY "GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS", ON THE OTHER SIDE. ITALIAN REP THOUGHT ALLIES WOULD NEED TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY MEANT BY "GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS" ON BOTH SIDES. U.S. REP NOTED DIFFICULTY IN ARRIVING AT UNDERSTANDING EVEN WITHIN ALLIANCE, IN ADVANCE OF THE FACT, UPON EXACTLY WHICH SOVIET MOVES IN WHICH REGIONS WOULD VIOLATE THE BELGIAN FORMULATION. UK REP (BAILES) THOUGHT THAT SUCH AN EFFORT WOULD BE PREMATURE.

8. INTERNATIONAL STAFF, IN ORDER TO GIVE FORM TO THE TURKISH

PROPOSAL, WILL CIRCULATE A NEW FOOTNOTE 1 TO PARA 2 OF THE BELGIAN FORMULATION AS A POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE PRESENT FOOTNOTE 1, ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: "THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THESE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS SHOULD BE DEFINED OR NOT, REMAINS TO BE SETTLED BY THE ALLIES AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME." NEXT SPC CONSIDERATION OF THIS ISSUE WILL BE THURSDAY, APRIL 10.

9. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF TURKISH, BELGIAN, FRG, AND CANADIAN INTEREST IN THE TURKISH PROPOSAL, MISSION RECOMMENDS ITS ACCEPTANCE BY THE U.S. EVEN WITHOUT THE TURKISH PROPOSAL, NAC APPROVAL OF THE BELGIAN FORMULATION WOULD NOT HAVE PRECLUDED A COUNTRY FROM LATER REOPENING THE QUESTION OF SPECIFYING GEOGRAPHIC AREAS. WE NOTE FROM PARA 5 OF REF C DEPARTMENT AWARENESS THAT AGREEMENT ON THE BELGIAN FORMULATION WOULD NOT RULE OUT FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF WHETHER GEOGRAPHIC AREAS SHOULD BE SPECIFIED OR NOT, AND THE FOOTNOTE DESCRIBED IN PARA 8 ABOVE SEEKS TO LEAVE THIS QUESTION OPEN. U.S. SUPPORT OF TURKISH PROPOSAL WOULD FURTHER DEMONSTRATE U.S. INTEREST IN FLANK SECURITY. GIVEN THE CHANGE IN THE ITALIAN POSITION, THE TURKISH PROPOSAL MAY BE SOMETHING ON WHICH ITALY CAN AGREE.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 989

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

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10. MISSION BELIEVES THAT THE CHANGE IN THE ITALIAN POSITION SHOULD ALTER SOMEWHAT THE DEMARCHE WHICH REF E INSTRUCTED EMBASSY ROME TO MAKE. ITALY NO LONGER MAINTAINS THE ITALIAN FORMULATION. HOWEVER, ITALY STILL SUPPORTS AN ALLIED DECISION TO SPECIFY THE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS WHERE RE-DEPLOYMENT OF WITHDRAWN FORCES WOULD DIMINISH SECURITY. U.S. OPPOSITION TO SPECIFYING THE GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS WAS OF COURSE THE MAIN REASON FOR U.S. INABILITY TO SUPPORT THE ITALIAN FORMULATION. IN MISSION VIEW, ROME COULD USE THE ENTIRETY OF PARA 3, REF E, WITH THE DELETION OF THE WORDS "AS IN ITALIAN FORMULATIONS". ON THE OTHER HAND, PARA 4 OF REF E NO LONGER SEEMS APPLICABLE, SINCE CHANGE IN ITALIAN POSITION DOES SEEM TO POSTPONE ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF HUNGARY. MISSION BELIEVES THE CHANGE IN THE ITALIAN
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POSITION RENDERS THE SPECIFIC CRITICISM OF THE ITALIAN FORMULATION IN PARA 5 OF REF E NO LONGER APPLICABLE.

11. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON COMMENT ON THE TURKISH PROPOSAL, INCLUDING WHETHER MISSION MAY ACCEPT REVISED FOOTNOTE 1 AS CONTAINED IN PARA 8 ABOVE, REMAINDER OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE WOULD BE AS DESCRIBED IN PARAS 15 AND 17 OF REF D. MISSION ASSUMES THAT IF REVISED FOOTNOTE 1 CONTAINED IN PARA 8 IS ACCEPTABLE, THE CHANGES WASHINGTON WISHED IN THE OLD FOOTNOTE 1 WOULD NO LONGER BE NECESSARY, SINCE THE REVISED VERSION WOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT THE BELGIAN FORMULATION DID NOT CONSTITUTE AGREEMENT ON WHETHER GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS SHOULD EVENTUALLY BE SPELLED OUT.
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